



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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Sneak preview: Steel already frames one of two grand skylights over an area that will become the Great Hall of the CVC. The skylights will allow natural light to illuminate the interior space while providing visitors a view of the Capitol Dome.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 11/17/03 through 11/21/03

East Front Plaza Highlights:

- Crews have completed concrete placements on the roof deck over the entire area above the House expansion space, south of the tower crane. Weather permitting additional concrete placements will occur on the roof deck throughout the week.
- Crews will continue to place concrete for the floor slab in the southwest quadrant.
- Steel erection will not occur this week as crews complete installation of caissons.
- Crews will continue to drill and install concrete caissons in the northern half of the site and, weather permitting, are expected to complete the last of the CVC's 186 caissons by the end of the week.
- Close to 500,000 cubic yards (50,000 truckloads) of material have been removed from the site since excavation began August 2002.

East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Demolition of structural elements continues on several levels within the East Front. The work is clearing the way for the transition zone between the CVC and the Capitol, which will include escalators, stairwells and two 25-passenger elevators.

Senate Side (Truck Tunnel Zone)

Truck Tunnel Construction:

- A drill rig is now being assembled and will be situated near the southernmost end of the construction zone near the Senate drive-thru canopy. Parking will not be impacted.
- CVC truck tunnel construction work continues on the East Front Plaza adjacent to and within the Senate triangular parking area, along Constitution Avenue NW, and along the east side of New Jersey Avenue NW between Constitution Avenue and C Street NW. Excavation is approximately 90 percent complete in this zone and concrete placement is ongoing.
- Crews continue assembling steel rebar across the tunnel opening in preparation of a concrete roof deck.

Next Week – 11/24/03 - 11/28/03

East Front Plaza Work

- Crews will resume erecting steel columns and crossbeams. They will continue to install roof decking, lay rebar and place concrete atop the decking and on grade in the southern half of the site.
- Depending on the weather this week, some finishing work related to the installation of caissons may still be required.
- Installation of utilities and storm drainage pipes will continue throughout the site.

East Front (Inside the Capitol Building)

- Demolition of structural elements will continue on all levels within the East Front Extension and in the Carriageway below the center steps.

Senate Side

- CVC truck tunnel work will continue in all areas of the tunnel construction zone.
- During the upcoming recess, a crane is expected to be situated near the southeastern-most end of the construction zone near the Senate drive-thru canopy. This crane will impact several parking spaces and will require the realignment of the drive lane to the Senate drive-thru canopy. A detailed construction notice will be disseminated once a work-plan is finalized.



Workers guide a cylindrical steel rebar cage into a caisson trench. A caisson is a concrete footer that serves as the foundation for each steel or concrete column that is erected on site. The last of 186 caissons may be completed by the end of this week.



Last month, on the north side of the Capitol, workers inside the new truck tunnel laid steel rebar along the base of the tunnel to prepare it for placement of a concrete road bed.

*If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact **Tom Fontana**, CVC Project Communications Officer for the Architect of the Capitol, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at: tfontana@ao.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on our web site at www.aoc.gov (click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link in the project list).*